Monday, March 2, 2015

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One of a kind

She plays a clone on Orphan Black but Canadian Screen Awards best actress winner Tatiana Maslany is a singular talent. Awards coverage, PAGE 12.

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

I CAN SEE MY FUTURE

Eight-year-old Catherine Makarytchev takes her turn peering through magnifying lenses while performing experiments at the University of Toronto, as part of a junior science program at the school designed to help break gender, financial and racial barriers — and hopefully encourage girls like Catherine to eventually enter the engineering field. Story, page 8. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

High rent making strange bedfellows

Tiny rooms available. The high cost of living in Toronto has some looking for lodging in all the small places

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
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Mehdi's surprised so many people have responded to his Kijiji ad seeking a roommate.

After all, the fourth-year doctorate student, who asked to be identified only by his first name, is only offering a bed in the living room of a 500-square-foot, one-bedroom condo for $650 a month, plus utilities.

"I'm just looking for a good person," he said.

There are perks. Mehdi's condo is furnished and in a new building near the University of Toronto. But, with little space to share, the bed that's available sits in an open-plan living room/kitchen area, near the kitchen table.

Roommates are nothing new to the city, but as condos get smaller — and rents skyrocket — it's making for some odd living arrangements.

Mehdi's roomie-wanted ad is just one example. Others posted online go so far as seeking out someone interested in splitting a bachelor.

"We don't need to become best buddies, but if it happens, hey, it's a bonus," one medical student's ad says.

Mehdi said he exhausted all other options before going the expensive condo route.

Other places he's looked at that will rent to a single person for $700 a month are basically "garbage," he said.

Mehdi rented a room from a woman at another downtown condo, but left after she made strange demands, such as "fining" him for leaving the toilet seat up.

Given the offers on his ad, Mehdi thinks he'll likely have his pick of a roommate. Many of the potential candidates are women, but, given the extremely close quarters, Mehdi said he's likely to choose a man.

Good faith will be a big factor in his decision.

"I'm looking for someone I can trust," he said. "There won't be too much privacy."

Picket lines to form at U of T

Thousands of students won't have classes starting Monday as about 6,000 teaching assistants at the University of Toronto are on strike.

Picket lines will be going up at various places on St. George campus as well as entrances to both the Mississauga and Scarborough campuses, said Erin Black, chairwoman of CUPE 3902's executive committee.

"It's definitely our hope that it'll be a short strike," she said, explaining that a lot of activities will feel the impact.

There won't be any tutorials, labs or grading, and some classes will completely shut down after union members failed to reach an agreement with university officials over the issue of graduate funding packages, Black said.

The university has announced that it will remain open, but some classes will "definitely" be off, she added.

"It's hard to quantify the impact, but there will be one, that's for sure," Black said, adding the strike will go on until both an agreement is reached.

U of T said it was disappointed about the strike. "Despite the strike action, we are staying open and will be focused on our commitment to students and their academic success," said Cheryl Regehr, the school's vice-president and provost.

A similar scenario could play out at York University starting Tuesday. 3,700 teaching assistants and contract faculty are currently still in negotiations with the school's administration. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

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NEWS

It's official

Coldest February on record in Toronto

The numbers are in: February was Toronto's coldest month in recorded history. And spring is just a few weeks away.

"(Other) Canadians laugh at us," said Environment Canada's senior climatologist David Phillips. "We're often the brunt of all kinds of jokes here in the city because of our weather.

"Well hey, Canada, we just earned our badge of courage. Nobody alive today has ever experienced a colder month in Toronto than we did this month."

Technically, it was a tie. February 1875 was exactly as cold at an overall average temperature of -12.6 C.

In the past 37 frigid days, the daily high never broke the melting point — peaking at -1.4 C. The lowest of the lows in February dropped to -25.5 C, with a wind chill that neared -40 C. Twenty-three days were labelled extremely cold by Toronto's Public Health department. That total well exceeded February 2014's 12 alerts, and the three in February 2013 and two in February 2012. February days normally average -4.5 C — more than eight degrees warmer than this year.

This week, Environment Canada is forecasting a high above 0 C for the first time since Jan. 24, with a single degree of warmth expected to last through Tuesday and Wednesday. Beyond Wednesday, daily highs are expected to drop back down to the single digits below freezing. But March is generally about five degrees warmer than February, said Phillips, so there's hope yet.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Time for change in one of Toronto's best-known spots. But what will the change bring? DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

Clues coming as to what will replace iconic Ed's

Open house. Developer has pledged to preserve Mirvish Village, but any kind of blueprint has remained a mystery

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The public is about to get its first glimpse of a developer's plan for the Honest Ed's building after nearly two years of speculation.

Westbank, the Vancouver-based developer that bought the iconic department store and surrounding property from the Mirvish family in 2013, will unveil its "initial concept" for the area at an open house Tuesday evening.

"Based on our communication with Westbank, we're very optimistic that they'll propose an inventive, thoughtful destination space," Bloor-Annex BIA chair Brian Burchell said.

Westbank has promised to honour the eccentric character of Mirvish Village while building a residential and commercial hub. However, thus far, it's kept its vision for the 4.4-acre site at Bathurst and Bloor under wraps.

"They're putting together nice marketing material, but they haven't actually spoken to us," said Krysten Caddy, owner of Coal Miner's Daughter boutique on Markham Street. "But I feel like they have their own plans and they've had them from the beginning."

Caddy and her business partner recently moved their shop across to the west side of the street in a bid to mitigate the development's effect on their business.

Caddy is hopeful the new development will help revitalize and rebrand Mirvish Village, but she remains worried Westbank is going to "level it and just build a giant condo."

Peter Birkemoe, owner of The Beguiling comic book shop on Markham, doesn't believe that will happen.

"It would be very unusual in Toronto to see anyone raze a city block all at once," he said.

Burchell, too, is optimistic that Westbank will walk the talk. He called the company "progressive" and said they're investigating ways to keep commercial rents affordable in Mirvish Village.

Burchell also cited the city's official plan for Bathurst and Bloor, which will limit commercial units at the base of the Westbank building to a maximum of 3,500 square metres.

"It's not like they're going to put a Walmart here," Birkemoe said.

The open house takes place at the Park Hyatt (4 Avenue Rd.) starting at 6 p.m. More information can be found at bloorandbathurst.com.

Quoted

"It's not like they're going to put a Walmart here."

Peter Birkemoe, owner of Mirvish Village comic book shop The Beguiling

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T.O. man goes tie to tie with Ford in protest of auction

Politics. Ryan Crieghton calls former mayor's eBay stunt 'tasteless'

LUKE SIMCOE
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Would you buy Vladimir Putin's pants? What about Kim Jong-un's socks? Marion Barry's underwear?

That's the question being asked by Ryan Creighton, who's protesting former mayor Rob Ford's decision to sell his clothes on eBay by auctioning off some of his own.

Ford recently began selling mementos of his mayoralty online. Items up for grabs include a pair of pyjama pants Ford was spotted in at a local Walmart and posters that were hung in his old office.

The most popular item has been the necktie Ford was wearing on Nov. 5, 2013, when he finally admitted to using crack cocaine. Bidding on the tie has surpassed $10,000.

"I mean, who wants Rob Ford's pants?" Creighton said. "It's like auctioning off a bullet that killed somebody. It's just tasteless."

Creighton believes turning Ford's belongings into memorabilia distracts from the damage he did during his time in the mayor's chair.

"It was an awful situation, and now he's gleefully offering up tokens of the time he tanked the reputation of our city," he said.

In protest, Creighton has put the tie he was wearing when he watched Ford's admission up for auction on eBay.

"I want to see this tie earn more money than Rob Ford's tie, just to make a point that we care more about something that's not Rob Ford than Rob Ford," he said.

Unlike Ford, who plans to give 10 per cent of the proceeds to charity, Creighton is giving all the money to the Centre for Mental Health and Addiction (CAMH) in Toronto.

"This is an addiction and mental health issue," he said. "And Rob Ford is the embodiment of how not to handle it."

At press time, the highest bid for Creighton's tie was $51.

Ryan Creighton is auctioning off the tie he was wearing when he watched former mayor Rob Ford finally admit to using crack cocaine. Any proceeds from the auction will be donated to CAMH. CONTRIBUTED

Crime

Three in custody after stabbing

Three men are in custody after two security guards were stabbed at a Vaughan nightclub early Sunday.

York Regional Police responded to a call about a stabbing at On The Rox, near Dufferin Street and Steeles Avenue West, at 2:17 a.m. Sunday. Officers found two security guards suffering from stab wounds. One was taken to hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries while the other guard's wounds were minor, police said. Three men were arrested near the front entrance of the club. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Vaughan

Man dies in industrial accident

A man has died in what York Region Police said was an industrial accident in Vaughan.

Police say two men were in a workplace on Sunday afternoon, which police didn't identify, and suffered what are described as serious and crushing injuries.

One man was pronounced dead at the scene while another was taken to hospital with critical injuries. The Coroner's Office and the provincial Labour Ministry will investigate. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local heats up Furious soundtrack

The latest car-porn blockbuster in the Fast and the Furious franchise could prove a huge launch pad for musician Fito Blanko.

The Panama-born artist is already well known in Latin music circles across the U.S., has a 2014 Latin Grammy nomination under his belt and has singles that have hit the Top 10 on Billboard's Latin charts.

Now, his newest single Meneo — a slick mix of dance, Latin and R&B — will be heard around the world as part of Furious 7, set for release April 3.

"It's a big deal," Blanko said. "I'm extremely excited, as a fan of the movie."

Blanko, who's lived in Toronto since he was eight, has collaborated with Drake and reggae artist Beenie Man. He's signed to Mr. 305, the label launched by rapper Pitbull.

Toronto-based Latin singer Fito Blanko compares his music to a beach: "It takes you on a little vacation." COURTESY JOAN PABON

The most exciting thing about being part of the new Furious movie isn't the royalties he'll see. It's the exposure, he said.

"The real value is being a part of the whole franchise and building those relationships, establishing yourself in that platform on a world scale," he said. "I don't think any kind of money could compensate that."

Blanko pulls on childhood influences from Panamanian musicians and the salsa music his parents loved, and he argues Latin music has a worldwide appeal reaching far beyond the Americas into Europe and even Japan.

As for where in the film his music is being used, Blanko's not sure. He, like everyone else, is waiting on the premiere.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD/METRO

Furious franchise

Furious 7 stars Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez and the late Paul Walker, among others.

- The previous six films have grossed more than $2 billion worldwide, according to film industry site the-numbers.com.

McDonald's shooting.

Lawyer says gun involved in shooting was legal

The lawyer for a security guard involved in the fatal shooting of two men at an east-end Toronto McDonald's early Saturday says the gun that was involved was "lawfully possessed."

Lawyer Craig Penney says his client was involved in an altercation at the restaurant and that he has since been released from hospital.

Police said on Saturday that an armed security guard, who was apparently in the restaurant to buy food, discharged his weapon following a "significant physical altercation" with two men.

Det.-Sgt. Terry Browne says the altercation took place somewhere near the food counter and there were between 15 and 20 customers and staff in the McDonald's when "multiple shots" were fired before 3 a.m.

Police say the two unidentified men, believed to be aged 25 and 40, were pronounced dead at the scene, while the security guard was taken to hospital for treatment of a hand injury.

Browne says the guard, who was employed nearby, is co-operating with investigators.

Penney says his client is "grateful to be recovering from his injuries," is "appreciative of the way in which the police are dealing with the matter" and "is thankful to his company for supporting him."

"We confirm that the firearm involved was legal and that it was lawfully possessed," Penney said Sunday in an email. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Meet the Khalid family

Community. Muslim group reaches out to foster good relations

GILBERT NGABO
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Mage Dagmar enjoys time with the Khalid family, including Muhammad Dawood Khalid and his wife Hazifa Shajra Khalid. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

As they sat around the table for a Sunday lunch, Muhammad Dawood Khalid and his family were cheerfully immersed in conversation with their guest, Mage Dagmar.

"This is so delicious. Your wife is a great cook," said Dagmar, who lives in the Finch-Don Mills area.

"But I am also a great cook," responded Khalid as everyone laughed.

You'd think this is a reunion of longtime friends, feasting on great dishes of lasagna and rice as they muse over a range of topics.

But Dagmar has barely spent 30 minutes at the Khalids' house in East York, and the lighthearted encounter has a serious purpose.

The Khalid family is one of hundreds across the country who are currently opening their doors to, basically, strangers. Through an initiative dubbed "Meet A Muslim Family," non-Muslim community members are invited in to talk about Islam, faith, culture and get to know each other.

"This is nothing new to us," said Khalid, who serves as an imam at the Baitul Hanif mosque in East York. "We always open our doors not just in our families, but also at the mosques."

Khalid moved here 14 years ago from Pakistan. He said there has been a growing sense of fear toward the Muslim community, mainly because of international acts of terrorism that are associated with Islam as a faith. But "true Islam" is about the good teachings about love, not hate, he said.

"We should fight the jihad of pen, spreading beautiful teachings, not the jihad of sword," he said.

"Each faith has good things, and we are all the same as human beings. That's the most important thing."

By opening up his doors to people like Dagmar, Khalid hopes it will serve as an opportunity to dispel any misconceptions around issues of faith, race, background and culture.

Dagmar agrees, and hopes this initiative benefits many who may be holding negative views of Islam. Plus, this is an occasion for her to expand her acquaintances.

"I've travelled in many Muslim countries and learned a lot of things," she said. "But very few of my close friends are Muslims."

Religion

Counteracting ripples of fear

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada, the group behind Meet A Muslim Family, wants to "bridge the gaps and remove misconceptions regarding Islam and Muslims" in the face of what the group calls heightened fear among Canadians towards Muslims.

The Harper government has come under fire for using the term "jihadism" to describe terrorist attacks, and the prime minister was accused last month of suggesting that Canadian mosques breed terrorist views.

Last week, a judge in Quebec would not hear a Muslim woman's case because she wore a headscarf in court, and reports broke of young Canadian Muslim women joining ISIS in Syria.

That's all fuelled by what spokesman Safwan Choudhry called the rise in concern among Muslims that they are being "maligned because of our faith."

More than 100 Muslim families in Toronto and 1,000 nationally have signed up so far as hosts. The campaign started Sunday and will run to March 14.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD/METRO

Poet accused of sexual harassment, assault sues peers

A prominent Toronto poet is suing two peers for more than $150,000 each, accusing them both of libel and defamation following allegations of sexual harassment and assault that saw him banned from spoken-word events across the country.

Greg Frankson, who goes by the stage name Ritallin, was the house poet on CBC's Here and Now radio program between 2012 and 2014. Frankson also appeared as a contestant on CBC's Canada's Smartest Person and is the founder of Cytopoetics — a "creative services" business.

In the face of the allegations, Frankson was kicked out of Ottawa's Capital Poetry Collective (CPC), and banned from attending their events in November 2014. A notice to this effect was posted on the collective's website. Spoken Word Canada (SpoCan) followed suit with a similar ban, as did other poetry groups in Toronto, London, Saskatoon, Victoria and Vancouver.

On Jan. 23, separate statements of claim were issued by Frankson's lawyers to Rusty Priske and Ruthanne Edward. Priske and Edward, who are married, are both poets and prominent members of CPC and SpoCan.

According to the statements of claim, Edward initiated these bans by bringing a grievance before the CPC on behalf of 21 anonymous women.

That grievance, the statement of claim says, "caused false allegations of sexual assault to be rebroadcast or republished by various media outlets, poetry associations and on social media."

Priske and Edward declined to comment. Their lawyer, Russell MacCrimmon, said in a statement his clients intend to defend the matter and had no further comment. No statement of defence has yet been filed. None of the allegations in the claim have been tested in court. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Train delays leave Milton commuters in the cold

Transit. MPP, Go say they're working to find a solution

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
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Kashif Khan says he's fed up with two months of delays on the Milton Go Train. JESSICA SMITH CROSS/METRO

Milton commuters are cold and angry after Go Train delays left them waiting outside for up to 40 minutes — during the bleakest February on record.

"It's frustrating," said Kashif Khan.

Khan takes the Milton train to Union Station every weekday. There have been delays almost daily since January, he said.

"Ten to 12 minute delay is standard and it could go 30 minutes," Khan said, adding he's now regularly late for work.

If Khan's train is delayed going home, he could end up waiting in subzero temperatures for 40 minutes to catch the connecting Milton bus.

He's one of a dozen commuters who've banded together to press Go Transit and their local MPP Indira Naidoo-Harris to fix the delays. Khan said they've been given a myriad of explanations but no solutions.

"We have been highlighting this I have been talking to them and they said we can't do much about this," Khan said.

Both Go Transit and Naidoo-Harris said they're looking into the problems.

Go spokeswoman Anne Marie Aikins apologized to riders.

"The extreme cold has caused delays over that last six weeks, right across the system," she said, attributing that to malfunctions of track switches and train doors. "We really do regret that."

Milton has seen more delays than other spots, she said, because it has more freight traffic than other lines. Go uses rails owned by CP, and schedules are designed to prevent conflicts with freight trains.

But, when weather delays hit, those schedules get thrown out of whack and the delays are compounded.

It's something Naidoo-Harris said she's experienced herself, as a regular Milton train rider, causing delays in her own schedule. She's been talking with Go Transit, the ministers of transport and finance and the premier's office to push for a fix.

"I'm reminding these people about what these challenges are on the Milton line, and how we could use some solutions," she said.

But, she warned, there's no quick fix.

Go is working on a "full strategy" to deal with the problem. It's also upgrading switches across the system so they'll function better in the cold, Aikins said. But, she added, that's a long-term fix that will take time to implement on the Milton line.

For Khan, that could mean no end in sight to a commute that has gone from three hours a day, to more than four.

"People are wasting one additional hour daily just because of these ongoing issues."

Delay refunds

- Go Transit riders can get a trip refund on their Presto card if their train is more than 15 minutes delayed, spokeswoman Anne Marie Aikins said.
- Riders need to go online and enter their train info to receive the credit.

Heritage. Brampton LRT will interfere with historic charm, residents say

The new mayor of Brampton says she wants the Hurontario LRT to run into or through the city's historic downtown, a route that some residents believe will interfere with its heritage character and charm.

"Downtown expects and needs that foot traffic associated with all kinds of transit. If you build the transit somewhere else, that's where the jobs and the density will be built," said Linda Jeffrey.

The LRT, which is still awaiting provincial funding, should connect seamlessly with Brampton's downtown GO station and the city's own transit buses, she said.

City staff, working with provincial agency Metrolinx, had recommended the Main St. route through the downtown. But council wanted to see other options so staff were sent back to the drawing board.

The alternatives now on the table include several that would see the transit run east or west of Main Street and another that would involve running the LRT underground in one section.

Any of those are more appealing than the original proposal, said Michael Avis of the Brampton Historical Society. He lives in one of the historic homes near the original Main Street route. Avis sees a modern LRT as a blight on the city's historic atmosphere, one that would inevitably divert traffic onto nearby residential streets.

"We're not opposed to the LRT, we're just opposed to the route. We just don't think a railway and the heritage district are compatible," said Avis.

He thinks the modern light transit vehicles would look incongruent alongside the palatial homes and parks along Main Street and he's not persuaded by pictures of sleek LRVs on the streets of historic European cities either.

Putting the LRT underground won't work either, said Avis — the foundations of some of the two-storey buildings that date to the 1800s couldn't withstand the tunnelling. It makes sense to route the LRT west of Main Street up McLaughlin Road to Sheridan College or east to the hospital, he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cost. March ushers in a fare hike for TTC riders

Riding the TTC is forcing travellers to dig a little deeper into their pockets.

A TTC fare hike announced by Mayor John Tory and TTC chair Josh Colle in January officially began March 1, boosting the price of tokens and Metropasses.

The price of a single token goes to $2.80, a 10-cent jump. Adult Metropasses will cost $141.50. A day pass will now cost $11.50.

The hike will not affect the cash fare, which remains at $3.

There's good news for families, though: While many riders will have to cough up extra cash to get across the city, riding the TTC is now free for children aged 12 or younger.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Engineering a better future for young girls

Outreach program. Special U of T class for Grade 3 pupils is part of push to make future workplace more gender-equal

Catherine Makarytchev, 8, takes her turn looking through magnifying lenses in Toronto on Saturday, while performing experiments at a junior science program at the University of Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARREN CALABRESE

Groups of students huddle around desks at a university campus as the instructor gives out a quick overview of the job at hand: build a crane, create an electromagnet and pick up metal.

Work begins in earnest with some of the students building their contraptions with wheels "for better transportation'' while others build them for strength.

But these are not university students. They are Grade 3 and Grade 4 students — about half of them girls — who like to spend a few hours on the weekend building "stuff'' and learning about science.

"I've been building stuff a long time,'' says eight-year-old Yashu Tenneti. "In our school we're building bridges out of Popsicle sticks.''

Does she want to be an engineer or scientist when she grows up?

"I don't know. I want to be many things,'' she says.

The class is part of an outreach program at the University of Toronto designed to help break gender, financial and racial barriers. The university hopes girls like Yashu will eventually enter an engineering program.

Many other universities across the country offer similar programs to encourage women to get into the fields of science, technology, engineering and math. York University, for example, runs all-girl courses that teach science through superheroes.

Later this week, the university is expected to launch the Lassonde 50:50 Challenge — an initiative that aims to achieve an equal gender-split enrolment at its Lassonde engineering school.

The gender divide in professions such as engineering and computer sciences is a startling problem in Canada. According to Engineers Canada, about 88 per cent of engineers are men.

Those numbers are slowly changing because of programs such as these, according to Jennifer Flanagan, the CEO of Actua — an Ottawa-based charity that promotes science to children, especially girls.

"They can experiment, tinker and that kind of environment is really conducive to boosting their confidence,'' Flanagan said of the programs, which include all-girl science classes. They have been around for two decades, she said, but they've become more popular in recent years.

Last September, the first-year undergraduate engineering class at the University of Toronto saw 365 women, a 25 per cent increase from the year before. however, is slow. A report from Engineers Canada shows just 18.3 per cent of undergraduate engineering degrees were awarded to women across the country in 2013, up slightly from 17.6 per cent in 2009.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal. Massage parlour debate rolls on as business endures despite crackdown

One year after the mayor promised to crack down on erotic massage parlours, Montreal still doesn't know what it's going to do with the hundreds of establishments operating right across the city.

City officials are still debating how to tackle the issue of erotic parlours, many of which are open 24/7 and illegally employ women who have sex with men in the massage rooms.

Without a clear policy, community groups and massage parlour owners say the police are letting the de-facto brothels operate under a tacit agreement: don't hire minors, don't force women to do anything they don't want to do, and keep organized crime out of it.

Yanik Chicoine, 37, operates two erotic massage parlours in Montreal's east-end and said police leave him alone despite the fact some of his employees sell their bodies for money inside his business.

"The police told me that their plan is to go after pimps employing minors, exploiting women, drug dealers," Chicoine said.

"One day a police officer told me: 'We know what's happening in your salon, and we prefer to see (prostitution) in this kind of place instead of on the street."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Yanick Chicoine operates two erotic massage parlours THE CANADIAN PRESS

Medical marijuana growers now fighting over scarce investors

The free-for-all era of Canada's commercial medical marijuana industry is over, as a new crop of growers try to woo scarce investment dollars in an increasingly competitive business.

The short-lived days of unbridled growth ended soon after last year's change in federal regulations, according to Boris Ziger, CEO of Matica Enterprises Inc, a Canadian company aiming to enter the medical marijuana supply industry. Ziger said those changes shifted medical-marijuana production away from patients growing their own pot, and toward more commercial enterprises.

According to Ziger, the stock market went "crazy" in the spring of 2014 as various companies began branding themselves as pot producers in hopes of cashing in.

All the exuberance at the beginning of the rush had Canada's security regulators warning investors about buying into medical marijuana companies over lack of disclosure and the general frenzy in the market.

"It was a very hyped-up market, people were very speculative, a lot of loosey-goosey talk," said Nick Brusatore, who owns a controlling share of vertical-farm innovator and marijuana-producing hopeful Affinor Growers.

"People have had enough of the hype,'' he said. "The market's wise to it now." But new businesses trying to get into medical marijuana production are having a tough time financing their ventures.

"Even we're finding it a little difficult to raise some cash," Ziger said, adding the newest players have to work a lot harder for what could be a big payoff.

Ziger said Matica is in the final stages of obtaining a licence from Health Canada and plans are in the works for a $10-million expansion of a 14-hectare lot in Nova Scotia for THC to eventually produce 11,000 kilograms of medical marijuana annually. Health Canada said 23 licences have been issued — 15 for fully authorized production of medical marijuana and eight for probationary, cultivation-only permits. The agency is currently processing 320 applications.

An estimated 40,000 patients use medical marijuana in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"People have had enough of the hype. The market is wise to it now."

Nick Brusatore, who co-owns Affinor Growers

Winnipeg

Thief arrested after giving cops place to meet him

A man arrested within an hour of stealing a teen's phone in the North End Thursday couldn't have made investigator's jobs any easier, short of bringing his own handcuffs to be led away in. Officers investigating after a 15-year-old girl reported a man with a knife had made off with her phone started their investigation by calling the phone. He gave police a time and place they could meet him in order to trade $100 for the safe return of the phone. The man — Obediah Courchene, 24 — did not know he was speaking to police and was caught and charged with robbery. METRO WINNIPEG

Calgary

Son faced abuse on anti-bullying day; mom angry

Jessica's son dressed up in bright colours before heading off to Banff Trail School last week for Pink Shirt Day, an occasion where students and staff alike take a stand against bullying. But during the lunch break, Jessica said seven kids swarmed her son and one repeatedly struck him.

"The teacher who was on duty didn't see what happened," said Jessica, whom Metro has agreed to identify only by first name to protect her son's identity. "They're saying they don't believe the victim and we know something's happening but we don't think it's a big deal."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Ebola. Vice-president of Sierra Leone quarantined after exposure to Ebola

Sierra Leone's vice-president has put himself in voluntary quarantine following the death from Ebola of one of his security guards.

Vice-President Samuel Sam-Sumana became acting president Sunday when President Ernest Bai Koroma left Sierra Leone to attend a European Union conference on Ebola in Belgium. Sam-Sumana will carry out his presidential duties from his home.

He is the highest-ranking African official to be in quarantine in this Ebola outbreak in West Africa, which is fast approaching a death toll of 10,000. The news highlights the rise of new cases in Sierra Leone, which has experienced a setback in curbing the spread of Ebola.

Sierra Leone's VP Samuel Sam-Sumana. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sam-Sumana voluntarily decided to quarantine himself for 21 days following the death from Ebola last Tuesday of one of his security personnel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Terror. 'Jihadi John' thought of suicide before going to Syria: Emails

Newly published emails suggest the man who became known as "Jihadi John" had suicidal thoughts before leaving Britain for Syria.

In an email exchange with the Mail on Sunday five years ago, he talked of taking too many sleeping pills and sleeping forever as a way to get away from British security service scrutiny. Mohammed Emwazi told a journalist at the newspaper in an email that he felt like a "dead man walking."

Emwazi was revealed this week to be the Islamic State militant known as "Jihadi John," who appears in beheading videos brandishing a large knife.

He was a computer science graduate who lived in west London before leaving for Syria in 2013. He was interrogated by security services while in Britain but never arrested. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"He seemed to have a persecution complex and desperately wanted his story to be told."

Journalist Robert Verkaik described meeting Mohammed Emwazi in 2010.

Afghanistan

Avalanche death toll rises

An Afghan official says the death toll from a massive avalanche in a mountainous valley near Kabul last week rose to 198 as bulldozers began clearing roads and rescue teams were able to reach remote villages. As rescue workers dig through the snow, they are uncovering more bodies. Helicopters are dropping food to villages. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Space Station

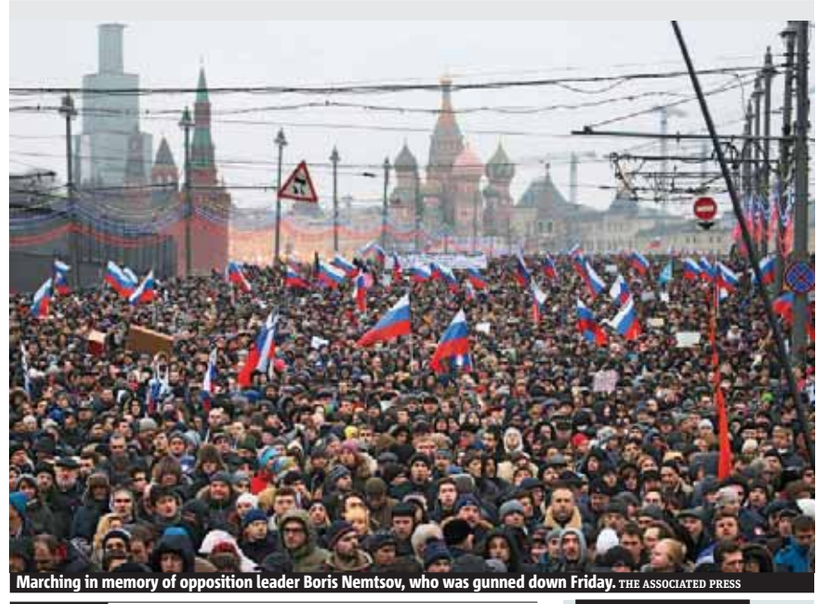
Spacewalking astronauts finish tricky cable job

Spacewalking astronauts successfully completed a three-day cable job outside the International Space Station on Sunday, routing several-hundred feet of power and data lines for new crew capsules. It was the third spacewalk in a week for two Americans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands mourn slain Putin critic

Russia. Demonstrators in Moscow march and chant to mourn murdered opposition leader Boris Nemtsov



Marching in memory of opposition leader Boris Nemtsov, who was gunned down Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carrying flowers, portraits and signs that said, "I am not afraid," tens of thousands of people somberly marched Sunday in Moscow to mourn opposition politician Boris Nemtsov, whose slaying on the streets of the capital has shaken Russia's beleaguered opposition.

The mourners marched to the bridge near the Kremlin where Nemtsov was gunned down shortly before midnight Friday. Chanting "We'll not forget, we'll not forgive" and waving Russian flags, the crowd filled the road along the Moscow River embankment. Many tied black ribbons to railings along the way.

The mood was sombre, with heavy security. Police helicopters flew overhead and police boats patrolled the river.

No one has been arrested in Nemtsov's killing, and Russia's federal investigative agency said it was looking into several possible motives.

Ilya Yashin, a friend and fellow opposition leader, said he hoped the killing would not frighten people.

"Essentially it is an act of terror. It is a political murder aimed at frightening the population, or the part of the population that supported Nemtsov and did not agree with the government," Yashin said. "I hope we won't get scared, that we will continue what Boris was doing."

U.S. view

"We hope there will be a thorough, transparent, real investigation, not just of who actually fired the shots, but who, if anyone, may have ordered or instructed this." **U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.** He said on Sunday television that the United States had no intelligence on who was behind the shooting.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has marginalized and intimidated his political opponents, jailing some and driving others into exile, since mass anti-Putin protests swept Moscow in 2011 and 2012. Nemtsov, 55, was among the few prominent opposition figures who had refused to be cowed.

Sunday's march could energize the opposition, but it could also prove to be a brief expression of emotions that dissipates in a climate of fear.

Mikhail Kasyanov, a former prime minister who joined the opposition, told the crowd the killing should be a turning point for Russia "for the simple reason that people who before thought that they could quietly sit in their kitchens and simply discuss problems within the family, now will start reconsidering everything that's going on in our country."

Russia's Investigative Committee said it is considering the possibility that Nemtsov's killing was aimed at destabilizing the political situation in Russia and the politician was a "sacrificial victim for those who do not shun any method for achieving ... goals." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'We are not afraid'

Another mourning march for Nemtsov was held earlier Sunday in St. Petersburg, drawing what police estimated was 6,000 people.

- Nelly Prusskaya, a 66-year-old doctor, said she came to pay her respects to Nemtsov. "I also came to say that I'm against the war in Ukraine... I'm against political murders."

White elephant at a Myanmar zoo in 2012. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rare white elephant captured

Myanmar's forestry department has captured a rare white elephant in the jungles of the country's western Ayeyarwaddy region, an official said Sunday.

The seven-year-old female was captured Friday, six weeks after it was initially spotted in a reserve in Pathein township, forestry official Tun Tun Oo said. It's the ninth white elephant in captivity in the country.

"We had to be careful," Tun Tun Oo said of the 1.9-metre-tall elephant. "It's wild. We didn't want the elephant or the forestry department officials to get hurt."

White elephants, which are actually albinos, have been revered for centuries in Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and other Asian nations.

Often pinkish in colour, with fair eyelashes and toenails, the animals were normally kept by monarchs as symbols of power and prosperity — many people still believe they bring good luck to a country. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Telecoms. Blackberry, Samsung pursue business sector customers together

BlackBerry Ltd. (TSX:BB) is bulking up its security partnership with Samsung Electronics in an effort to attract more business customers.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based smartphone company says it has locked in a new agreement that will integrate more of its services into Samsung Knox, the South Korean company's mobile security platform.

The pact is the latest in a growing relationship between BlackBerry and Samsung, once smartphone industry rivals who are now combining some of their efforts to bolster a competitive stance against Apple Inc., which is making its own solo push into the business community — known within the industry as enterprise users.

BlackBerry chief executive John Chen said his company brings additional security features to the table that Samsung needed to improve its slate of software.

"Samsung is a consumer company and they intended to get into the enterprise space," Chen said on a recent conference call with reporters.

"Enterprise needs a lot more than what the Knox offered."

The joint announcement comes just before the start of the Mobile World Congress trade fair in Barcelona, Spain on Monday.

BlackBerry's WorkLife allows businesses to supply phones to their employees, but create a virtual divide within the device that allows it to operate as if it were two separate phones.

SecuSuite software adds an extra level of security to the phone with encryption technology that makes voice and text communication "virtually tap-proof," Blackberry said. The service will be available on Samsung Knox this fall.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Samsung unveils its state of the art

The new Galaxy S6, right, and S6 Edge are displayed during a Samsung Galaxy Unpacked 2015 event on the eve of this week's Mobile World Congress wireless show in Barcelona, Spain, Sunday, March 1, unveiling a new phone that ditches its signature plastic design for metal and glass. The South Korean phone manufacturer also unveiled a premium model with a display that curves around the edges.

MANU FERNANDEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air travel

South Pacific nations to bolster aircraft tracking

Australia, Indonesia and Malaysia will lead a trial of an enhanced method of tracking aircraft over remote oceans to allow planes to be more easily found should they vanish like Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

The trial is expected to use satellite-based positioning technology.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economic crisis

Spain denies Greek accusation

Spain's prime minister has denied his Greek counterpart's claim that Spain and Portugal are trying to overthrow Greece's government.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras had said the conservative Iberian countries planned "the wear and tear of our government" and its overthrow.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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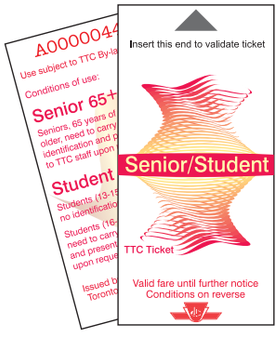

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VOICES

TORY VS. FORD? NOT REALLY

A recent poll saw 34 per cent of respondents say the previous mayor was better than the current one but, even still, those outside of Ford Nation have little to worry about in the future

TORY'S TORONTO
Matt Elliott

He's been out of the mayor's office for three months, but people keep wanting to talk about Rob Ford.

I've resisted the urge.

Most days, I care as much about Ford's continuing misadventures as I do about the private lives of the cats that live on my laneway. Whether he's selling his old pyjama pants online or getting kicked out of a council meeting, Ford's actions of late are kind of weirdly amusing but they don't really hold much relevance — especially considering the City of Toronto is in the midst of finalizing its $10-billion budget for the year.

That's kind of a bigger deal than Ford's eBay auction.

But because of his continued headline-making and maybe also because new mayor John Tory has made a habit of responding publicly to Ford's criticism, there's a question that keeps coming up about the ex-mayor.

So let's just address it: Is Ford a political threat to Tory? Could he beat him in an election?

I don't want to try to predict the far-flung future, but I don't see good reason for Tory to worry much.

He's got the numbers on his side.

Yes, Ford remains politically popular with a certain demographic of voters. Ford Nation represents between 30 per cent and 35 per cent of the voting population.

That number has been borne out again and again, most recently in a Feb. 22 Forum Research Poll that saw 34 per cent of respondents indicate they thought Ford made a better mayor than Tory.

As scary as some might find that stat, there's a silver lining in it for Tory.

Since 2011, there's never been any indication that Ford — or another candidate strongly linked to Ford — could do better than about 35 per cent in a mayoral election.

Virtually every poll conducted over the last year supports that conclusion.

Voters who have clung to Ford throughout all his scandals are obviously not going to abandon him, but it's equally unlikely that Ford will ever see the moderates who helped him win in 2010 jump back on the bandwagon.

So unless something dramatically changes, Ford Nation is going to prevail only if there's a multi-candidate race that results in a fractured electorate and a split vote.

If Tory is going to worry about anything, he should worry about that.

A well-connected progressive candidate inserting themselves into a hypothetical Ford versus Tory matchup could create all kinds of headaches — especially if Tory ends up alienating the left wing of council over the next few years.

But as for Ford alone, I'd suggest Tory not worry.

Sure, Ford's still good at getting headlines but, unless his immovable poll numbers start moving, I don't see reason to take any of it very seriously.

Your Toronto

The Quay to beauty

Photo submitted by Metro reader Tosan Igho-Osagie

The shores of Lake Ontario are beautiful in the summer, right? Tosan Igho-Osagie thinks they're just beautiful — albeit chilly — in the dark, dark depths of winter. This photo was taken Feb. 5 in the Harbourfront neighbourhood off Queen's Quay.

CONTRIBUTED

SEE YOUR SHOT HERE:
Send us high-quality snaps of your city to readers@metronews.ca

Upcoming

Free Aga Khan tours

The Aga Khan Museum has drawn many visitors since opening last year, both for its stunningly beautiful building on DVP-Eglinton and for a variety of artistic objects. Now there's a chance to see it all for free. The museum is launching Free Wednesdays, when people can come in to enjoy the exhibits for free every Wednesday between 4 and 6 p.m. More details can be found at agakhanmuseum.org. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

Income tax clinics

It's that time of the year when T4 copies and RRSPs are collected and every detail is important. For many, it can be a hard go. The Central Eglinton Community Centre is running free sessions to help people navigate the tax return season. Sessions begin today, March 2, and run until April 24. For more information, call 416-392-0511. Similar programs are taking place at Eatonville Library from March 5. Call 647-404-5662 or email ccruz@culturelink.ca for more details.

GILBERT NGABO/METRO

A Score for Women's Voices

In 2000, the Quebec Federation of Women's March of Women was one of thousands of demonstrations in 161 countries around the world to denounce poverty and violence against women. Five filmmakers recorded the marches and the result is A Score for Women's Voices, which will be screening as part of International Women's Day celebrations. Screening is at Gerrard/Ashdale Library on March 2. Call 416-393-7717 or email ashdale.events@gmail.com for details.

GILBERT NGABO/METRO

metro

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CSAs love Mommy

The troubled characters in Xavier Dolan's forceful film Mommy had no trouble sweeping the Canadian Screen Awards on Sunday night, when the acclaimed feature racked up nine prizes including best picture.

Dolan's raw look at a widowed mother and her violent teenage son dominated the film categories, with the 25-year-old Quebec phenom taking best director, best editing and best original screenplay for himself.

The wins began before the glitzy CBC broadcast even hit the air, when Dolan was awarded the best editing and best original screenplay award in a non-televised pre-show.

"I'd love to thank my mother and dedicate this award to her, I truly mean it," said Dolan, whose searing debut, I Killed My Mother was also an intense mother-son saga.

During the broadcast, Mommy claimed all three of the acting prizes it had been up for, with best actor going to Antoine Olivier Pilon, best actress to Anne Dorval and best supporting actress to Suzanne Clement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mommy director Xavier Dolan and producer Nancy Grant.

G. PIMENTEL PHOTOGRAPHY/ACADEMY.CA

Schitt's Creek actress Annie Murphy poses with Dan and Eugene Levy on the Canadian Screen Awards red carpet. G. PIMENTEL PHOTOGRAPHY/ACADEMY.CA

Canadian Royalty

Homegrown stars including Tatiana Maslany and Kiefer Sutherland gathered to celebrate the best in film, TV and digital media at the Canadian Screen Awards on Sunday night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

G. PIMENTEL PHOTOGRAPHY/ACADEMY.CA

Gimme Moore

Julianne Moore, who stars in David Cronenberg's Maps to the Stars, walked the red carpet in Toronto at the annual awards show where she was nominated for best actress in a film. She did not take home the trophy, but co-star John Cusack won for best supporting actor.

Not a Rookie win

Missy Peregrym holds the Golden Screen award for the highest rated TV drama for Rookie Blue at the Canadian Screen Awards.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Best actress success cloned

Tatiana Maslany, who plays multiple characters in Orphan Black, won for best actress in a drama for the second year in a row. The hit Space series was also named best drama.

G. PIMENTEL PHOTOGRAPHY/ACADEMY.CA

Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Kid Rock's instagram abuzz

Kid Rock's recent comments about Beyoncé drew the ire of her fans. GETTY IMAGES

Kid Rock is learning the hard way that you do not want to cross Beyoncé — or her legion of fans. Rock had some pretty unkind things to say about the Single Ladies singer's musical legacy and physical attractiveness during a rant to Rolling Stone: "Beyoncé, to me, doesn't have a f—ing Purple Rain, but she's the biggest thing on Earth," he says. "How can you be that big without at least one Sweet Home Alabama or Old Time Rock & Roll? People are like, 'Beyoncé's hot. Got a nice f—ing ass.' I'm like, 'Cool, I like skinny white chicks with big (breasts).' Doesn't really f—ing do much for me." Charming.

So what did Beyoncé's fans do? The 'Beyhive' descended on Rock's Instagram account and flooded his recent photos with countless comments and bee emojis.

It's kind of beautiful, but still probably more attention than Rock deserves.

Quoted

"How can you be that big without at least one 'Sweet Home Alabama'?"

Detroit rocker Kid Rock on Beyoncé's fame.

Justin Bieber with Naomi Campbell. GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTYIMAGES

Biebs parties like it's his 21st birthday

Look out world, Canada's crown prince of obnoxiousness is really, truly not a kid anymore. Justin Bieber celebrated his 21st birthday over the weekend with numerous Twitter updates. Oh, and a huge house party, filled with sprinklers and 50 Cent hits, if the brief video he posted is any indication. Now that he's come of age, Bieber will have to find some new reason to get kicked out of U.S. nightclubs, but I'm sure he'll think of something. He's very resourceful.

'Nothing strange' about ScarJo, Travolta kiss

So that super-creepy photo of John Travolta grabbing and kissing Scarlett Johansson on the red carpet? Well, Johansson herself has heard what you've been saying about it and she wants you all to knock it off.

"There is nothing strange, creepy or inappropriate about John Travolta," she tells the Associated Press. "The image that is circulating is an unfortunate still-frame from a live-action encounter that was very sweet and totally welcome.

"I haven't seen John in some years and it is always a pleasure to be greeted by him."

If you say so.

Scarlett hugs John GETTY IMAGES

Rodriguez sorry for TMZ rant

So what is Michelle Rodriguez apologizing for this time? Oh, just a rant to TMZ outside a restaurant about the trend of updating comic book superheroes with non-white actors.

When asked whether she would be playing Green Lantern, Rodriguez said, it was the dumbest thing she had ever heard: "Because of this whole, like, 'minorities in Hollywood' thing, it's so stupid. Like, stop stealing all the white people's superheroes. Like, make up your own," she said.

The backlash led to her shooting an iPhone video apologizing, but added the practice was "lazy."

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The highs and lows of John Travolta

The controversial actor has had a career marked by dramatic ups and downs, from comeback king to Internet meme. Widely pilloried for his touching of Idina Menzel's face during this year's Oscars, John Travolta has long navigated the ebb and flow of celebrity, relying on his boyish charisma and a few good dance moves for numerous revivals. Here's a look at his highs and lows

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dancing up a Fever in the '70s

Already known to TV viewers of Welcome Back, Kotter, Travolta emphatically debuted as a leading man in the 1977 disco sensation Saturday Night Fever. He pronounced: "This is dancing, not that Fred Astaire thing. I just move and strut, and *that's dancing*!" He followed it up as Danny Zuko in 1978's Grease, forever immortalizing his high voice and pomade-slicked hair.

Not so Perfect '80s

The 1980s weren't nearly as good to Travolta as the '70s. He worked consistently, but in a string of flops like Perfect, in which he played a Rolling Stone reporter, and Two of a Kind, which reteamed him with Grease co-star Olivia Newton-John. Many of the films he turned down (like American Gigolo) were more successful than the films he chose to make.

Making a killing with Pulp Fiction

Though the Look Who's Talking comedies restored Travolta's popularity, his resurrection was undoubtedly due to one man: Quentin Tarantino. The director specifically sought out Travolta for Pulp Fiction. His performance as Vincent Vega earned Travolta his second Oscar nomination and brought on a rush of work, including the acclaimed Elmore Leonard adaptation Get Shorty.

Downhill Battlefield

The Pulp Fiction rejuvenation did not last long, though Travolta's track record (Michael, Face/Off, Primary Colors, A Civil Action) was better in the late 1990s than it was in the '80s. But in 2000, he starred in perhaps the biggest bomb of his career: Battlefield Earth. It's frequently ranked among the worst movies of the decade.

A Pelham of a comeback

Travolta continued to co-star in big-budget releases that received mediocre reviews and did modest box office: Swordfish, The Punisher, The Taking of Pelham 123. More recently, Travolta has lined up several films, but most intriguingly, he's to play O.J. Simpson defence attorney Robert Shapiro in the upcoming FX series American Crime Story by Ryan Murphy (Nip/Tuck, American Horror Story).

The face of Scientology

Travolta's recent years have been marred by increased attention to his long-held religion. In 2013, author Lawrence Wright published a thoroughly researched expose of the Church of Scientology, which Travolta joined in the '70s. The book and an upcoming documentary are critical of Travolta for being a public face to the controversial organization.

DVD Reviews

Foxcatcher

Director. Bennett Miller

Stars. Channing Tatum, Steve Carrell

In this simmering study of "winner" obsessions and male bonding, Bennett Miller (Moneyball) presents a fact-based psychodrama of testosterone ambition turned toxic.

What Miller so commandingly does here, winning himself the Best Director prize at Cannes this year and also an Oscar nomination for his efforts, is examine male loneliness and desperation from a variety of angles.

Channing Tatum is an Olympic wrestling champ befriended and funded by an ego-tripping tycoon, played by Oscar-nominated Steve Carell, who is almost unrecognizable in fake nose and unsmiling face. Mark Ruffalo, also Oscar nominated, is the coach and brother struggling to keep the grappler grounded and focused.

The fine performances aren't all male — Vanessa Redgrave and Sienna Miller also deliver, in small roles – but the focus is on desperate boy-men who need to prove their manliness, either though money or muscle.

The Captive

Director. Atom Egoyan

Stars. Ryan Reynolds, Mireille Enos

Atom Egoyan's kidnap drama is highly derivative of his past work, revisiting favourite themes of imperiled children and icy landscapes and mindscapes. Set in wintry Niagara Falls, it's also ludicrous, reducing serious social issues into drive-in movie clichés and risible plot twists.

Ryan Reynolds and Mireille Enos star as a distraught and shattered couple, whose 9-year-old daughter (Peyton Kennedy) was kidnapped from Matthew's truck. No spoiler alert is needed to report that Cass will turn up inside the fortress home of her controlling kidnapper Mika (Kevin Durand).

Mika's an operatic freak, part of an Internet ring of Peeping Tom pedophiles, who use hidden cameras, planted clues and child dupes to torment the families they've targeted.

Further layers of inanity are added to a situation that is already more farce than drama, pounded into submission by Mychael Danna's bombastic score. PETER HOWELL

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Gaga makes a polar face

Lady Gaga made the plunge into the icy waters of Chicago's Lake Michigan at a fundraiser for Special Olympics Sunday. The singer is seen soaking wet here with her fiancé and Chicago Fire actor Taylor Kinney, as well as David Eigenberg (Sex and the City), and Jon Seda (Homicide: Life on the Street). Special Olympics Chicago president Casey Hogan said Gaga did the plunge with more than 4,500 other participants. Hogan said the singer's appearance was "a very nice surprise."

TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

Sex, drugs and playing the oboe in the orchestra

New series. Amazon Prime show Mozart in the Jungle being compared to Girls

Jason Schwartzman had one thought after reading a review of the book Mozart in the Jungle: Sex, Drugs and Classical Music: "If I was going to watch a TV show, this is what I would like to watch."

Schwartzman, 34, is better known for acting (he's shot five films with director Wes Anderson, including The Grand Budapest Hotel) than executive producing. He does both, however, in Mozart in the Jungle, a new series from Amazon Prime. All 10 first-season episodes are now available for streaming on the digital platform Shomi.

Loosely based on Blair Tindall's memoir, the half-hour drama explores a young oboe player's adventures as she tries to crack the lineup of the fictional New York Philharmonic. It's been compared to Girls meets Smash with a little Fame thrown in.

Lola Kirke is the star of Mozart in the Jungle. CONTRIBUTED

At the centre of the story is Hailey Rutledge, a talented young oboist from North Carolina trying to make it in Manhattan. Actress Lola Kirke identifies with her character's greenness as well as her ambition. "She is a very driven and passionate individual and she definitely inspires me to tap into that," says Kirke, who studied with a real oboist to make her concert scenes look believable. The secret to faking the oboe, she says, is "just make sure that you look as ugly as possible. It's not a flattering instrument."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Behind the scenes

- **Family affair.** Schwartzman teamed up with his cousin, Roman Coppola, as well as director Paul Weitz (About A Boy), for the series. All three responded to this world of temperamental artists but especially Schwartzman and Coppola, who both grew up in artistic environments.

An interactive adventure, a llama-filled time waster and a book that asks you to read between the lines: here are the week's best downloads

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
scene@metronews.ca

Video game

Name. The Order: 1886

For. PlayStation 4

Rated. Mature 17+

The Order: 1886 is so focused on being an interactive movie, it forgets to give equal time to its shoot-outs and brawls in order to still count as a game. The world it creates, in which Arthurian knights chase werewolves across Jack The Ripper's London streets, is fascinating. It's a promising adventure that simply needs more.

App

Alto's Adventure

iPhone/iPad
$2.29

You're chasing after escapee llamas in this gorgeous snowboarding time waster that features one-touch controls, hypnotic music, and the delight of jumping, grinding, and flying between both night and day.

Ebooks

Pry

By. Danny Cannizzaro & Samantha Gorman

iPad/iPhone

Pry asks you to read between its lines by opening tears within its pages that reveal passages of text, hidden videos, and sentences encoded with Braille. It's an intentionally disjointed way of recounting the Gulf War experiences of demolitions expert James who is left to sort his traumatic memories in triggered flashes.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
Ontario's Climate Change Strategy Discussion Paper

When: Tuesday, March 3, 2015
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Where: Harmony Creek Golf Centre Clubhouse
1000 Bloor Street East
Oshawa

Ontario has released a climate change discussion paper and invites citizens, businesses and communities to share ideas about how to successfully fight climate change while fostering economic growth and keeping our businesses competitive.

Experts from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change will be available to guide the conversation and answer your questions.

Capacity is limited. Early arrival is required to secure seating.

For special accommodation, please send an e-mail to **liz.lumsden@ontario.ca**, indicating your accessibility requirements.

You can read the discussion paper at: **ontario.ca/climatechange**

Can't attend in person? Participate online at **www.ontario.ca/climatechange** or **tel: 416-325-4000** or **1-800-565-4923**.

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LIFE 3

The advantage of an allowance

Money smarts.
Giving kids their own dollars to spend and save teaches them important lessons

GAIL VAZ-OXLADE
Gail blogs daily at gailvazoxlade.com

Money management is a concrete skill and kids need access to money to learn how to manage it. ISTOCK

It's one of the universal truths about kids: Get them in a store and they are transformed into beggars as persistent as any telemarketer. Every shopping trip leads to upturned faces and pleas of, "Mom, can I have this?"

We like to blame the commercials on television, or over-indulgent parents, or a sense of entitlement never before seen because of rampant consumerism. But maybe the real culprits are habit and routine.

When was the last time you went into a store without buying something?

In our hectic, gotta-get-it-done lives, we seldom take the time to window shop or browse. Almost every store entry ends in a purchase. Maybe it's only natural that children copy our retail routines.

When everything is magically acquired by swiping a card and pushing some buttons, how are kids supposed to understand that there isn't an endless fountain of purchasing power? And since it's sometimes easier just to give in to our kids' all-too-frequent demands than to explain the big picture, children learn the wrong lessons.

We can all agree that children who are shown how to be responsible about money early on will be much more likely to stay in good financial shape down the road. But how do you get started?

First, you've got to give 'em some money. Before children can learn to manage money they need to be able to get their hands on the stuff. The debate about allowance — how much children should receive and who should manage it — rages. But the reality is that kids can't learn about money if they have no money to work with. Money management is a concrete skill. Yes, there are some abstract concepts you'll eventually have to cover — like compound interest — but it all starts with nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies.

I define an allowance as the money you normally spend on your kid put in your child's hands so he or she can learn to manage it. Given regularly, an allowance not only provides kids with the bucks they need to experiment with saving and spending, it also gives them the responsibility for keeping their money safe and using it wisely. Over time, even a modest allowance will get kids thinking about the value of money and how to make their dollars go further.

The alternative to an allowance, and a trap for most parents, is the dole system. That's when your kid asks for some cash and you dole it out. Since the dole system has no limit, there is no reason for a child to set priorities or make a decision on relative value.

If you're currently on the dole system and don't fully appreciate what it's costing you, consider keeping track of all money you hand over to your kid in a month. You may be surprised at how large his allowance is!

The amount you give your child will depend on how much you can afford, your child's age, and what you expect your child to do with her allowance. If the most you can afford is five dollars a week, so be it. While some parents are stuck on the two-dollar-a-week allowance, just think about what $2 can buy in this day and age.

Younger children need less money. If you expect older children to buy some of their own clothes, pay for their own haircuts and plan for big-ticket buys such as camp or car insurance, you'll have to figure out what each of those things costs. To those planned spending items you'll need to add some money for establishing a regular savings habit and, perhaps, some money for sharing.

You can use the age of each child as a guide, giving a dollar a week for each year of age. So a seven-year old gets seven dollars. You're the best judge of the amount that will be most appropriate for your child.

To differentiate between the different purposes for money, set up containers for each purpose. This is where the idea for the Magic Jars on Til Debt came from. The reason the jars work for children (and apparently for adults, too) is that they make the finite nature of money visual. There is only so much.

Allowance basics

Look at an allowance as having three parts:

- The part to be saved, the part to be shared, and the part to be spent.
- This third part can be further broken down into two parts: the spending kids want to be able to do on a whim, and the spending they intend to do based on specific expenses and expressly stated goals.
- Saving, sharing and planned spending are all ideas that have to be introduced, practised and reinforced.

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Top chicken with flavours of Greece

Dinner. Sautéed chicken breast with spinach, feta and tomatoes makes a zesty entree

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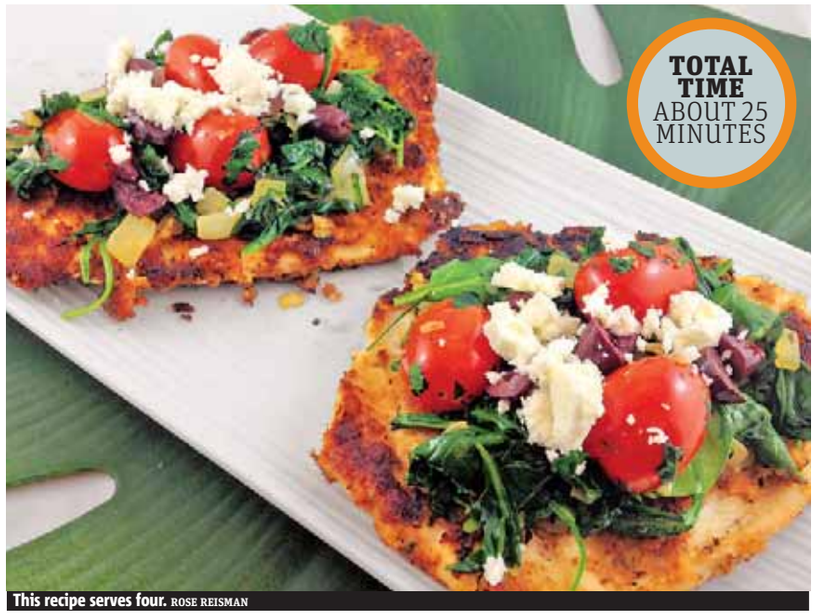

This recipe serves four. ROSE REISMAN

Kick off March with this fresh and easy dinner that rivals any restaurant entree.

Chicken is one of the most versatile proteins to serve. You can enjoy it as an informal everyday meal or jazz it up like what I've done here. The chicken doesn't need to be marinated or seasoned since there is so much flavour in the topping.

The chicken is lightly breaded and sautéed in a small amount of oil. The sautéed spinach and onions are the perfect match with the feta, tomatoes and olives, giving it a Greek infusion of flavours.

Feel free to substitute the spinach for baby kale and use any other firm cheese such as grated Parmesan, Asiago or crumbled goat cheese. I love to serve this meal with a Greek or Caprese salad.

Ingredients

- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp milk or water
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 2 tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 1/2 lb chicken breast, pounded
- 4 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 tsp crushed garlic
- ½ tsp dried basil
- 16 small cherry or grape tomatoes
- 8 cups fresh chopped spinach
- 3 tbsp sliced black olives
- 1 oz crumbled feta cheese

Directions

1. Mix egg and milk on a large plate. On a separate plate, mix bread crumbs and Parmesan. Dip chicken in egg mixture, then bread crumbs.

2. Spray a large skillet with vegetable spray and add 2 tsp vegetable oil. On medium heat, sauté chicken pieces until cooked through, about 5-8 minutes. Set aside.

3. In another large skillet, add remaining 2 tsp vegetable oil and onions, garlic and basil. Sauté for 3 minutes until onions are softened.

4. Add whole tomatoes and sauté just until tomatoes begin to blister. Add spinach and sauté just until spinach starts to wilt.

5. Spread spinach mixture over chicken. Sprinkle with olives and feta.

THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

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Parents should help guide teens in school selection

Education. Ask the tough questions as high school students eye post-secondary institutions

University and college hopefuls across the country will be on edge for the next few weeks as they weigh their options. As students go through their checklists and start doing their final visits, one former administrator says parental participation is key.

"For a typical high school parent, mom and dad usually don't want to discourage their kids from going where they want to go," says Joe Schmoke, the founder of University Research and Review, a firm that helps guide students toward affordable colleges and universities.

"But parents should be as objective as they can to encourage their kids to really think through this."

We asked Schmoke for his tips for families.

Don't be afraid to push back: "This is the first adult decision that 99 per cent of these kids are going to make in their lives," notes Schmoke. "Challenge that decision. Ask 'Why are you picking this school?'"

Talk to your child about goals. Schmoke says the second most common reason people transfer is because they change their field of study.

"It's only natural that someone will change their major as their interests and personalities change," he says.

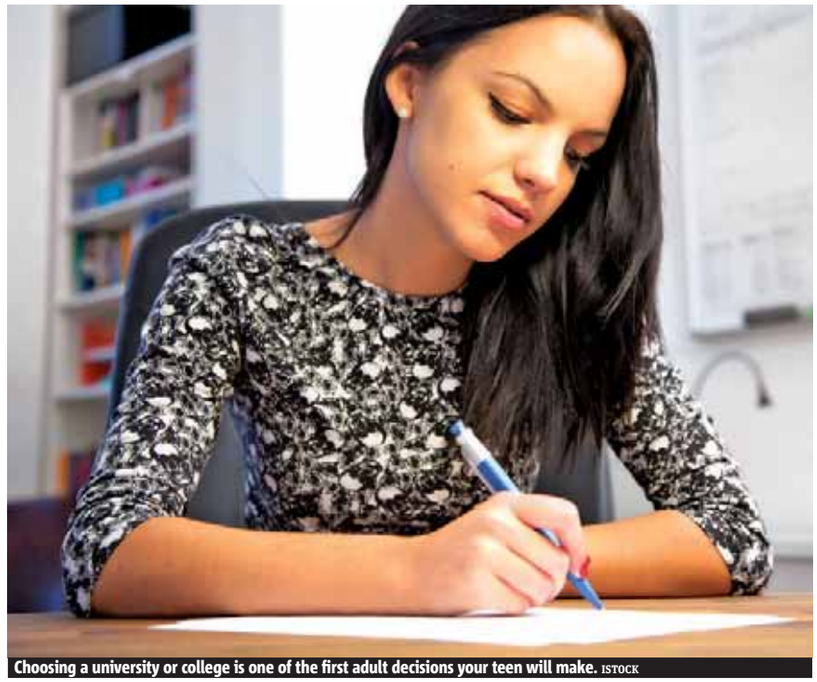
Schmoke also recommends that parents encourage their college-age children take a personality test to get a better idea of the kinds of careers they would thrive in.

"Looking for schools is a frustrating time," he notes. "So these tests will let you figure out what it is that you are all about and what you like."

Be honest: "For many students, the initial decision (of picking a school) is an emotional one," says Schmoke. Parents, he says, should be up-front with their children about what they can afford.

"You should be researching for the best value," he says. "Negotiate for financial aid, look at scholarships."

LAKSHMI GANDHI/METRO NEW YORK



Choosing a university or college is one of the first adult decisions your teen will make. ISTOCK

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Silicon Valley

Google unveils new headquarter plans

Google's campus headquarters offer plenty of amenities. AFP/RYAN ANSON

Wildlife and sweeping waterways are part of Google's new campus headquarter plans, unveiled Friday.

The design also includes lush public gardens, looping covered bikeways and futuristic-looking buildings that can be moved about like toy blocks. The redesign on the Google property in Mountain View, Calif., by Danish architect Bjarke Ingels and London-based Thomas Heatherwick, was submitted to local officials with details released on the company's official blog. Google vice president for real estate David Radcliffe said in a blog post that the new campus will "lead to a better way of working."

The plan includes large canopies over the campus which "regulate climate, pollution, and sound, while freeing spaces from traditional architectural limitations like walls, windows and roofs."

It aims "to blur the distinction between our buildings and nature," added Radcliffe.

AFP

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The University of Toronto, Faculty of Dentistry's Continuing Dental Education Department is recruiting volunteers to act as patients in an upcoming program! Licensed Dentists will be administering a moderate sedation to patient volunteers under the supervision of Faculty Professionals. The course is designed to teach practicing dentists to provide sleep dentistry to patients that find dental treatment to be very stressful. Treatments to be performed are in the areas of: cleanings, small fillings, & minor cosmetics.
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Please note: Must be over 18 to apply and have no significant health issues. Not all patients who apply will be accepted. Patients will be screened on their suitability to the goals of the educational program. A screening appointment at the University will be made in March & April 2015 to determine suitability. Treatment appointments will be provided during the week of June 15th & June 19th, 2015 only.
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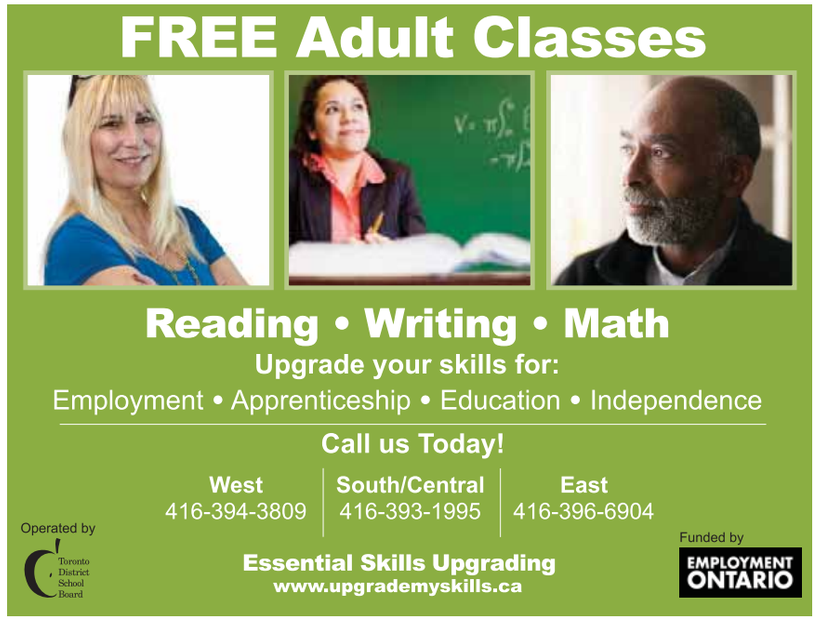

NHL

Rangers make deal for Yandle

The New York Rangers acquired defenceman Keith Yandle from the Arizona Coyotes on Sunday.

The Coyotes confirmed on Twitter that Yandle, along with defenceman Chris Summers and a fourth-round pick in 2015, are heading to New York in exchange for top prospect Anthony Duclair, defenceman John Moore, a first-round draft pick in 2016 and a second-round pick in 2015.

Keith Yandle
GETTY IMAGES

The Coyotes are also reportedly retaining 50 per cent of Yandle's salary in the deal.

Yandle's 40 points (four goals, 36 assists) are tops on the struggling Coyotes this season. THE CANDIAN PRESS

Flames ship Glencross to D.C.

Despite being in the playoff picture, the Calgary Flames traded pending-free-agent winger Curtis Glencross to the Washington Capitals for second- and third-round picks.

"As tough as it is to say goodbye to everyone in Calgary and the fans — I've had such great support over the years — I'm excited for a new start," Glencross told reporters in Philadelphia on Sunday. Glencross has nine goals and 19 assists in 53 games this season for Calgary, which is three points out of the second wild-card spot in the Western Conference. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Our swagger is just gone': Vasquez

NBA. Raptors mired in season-high 5-game winless streak following 5-point loss to Knicks

Raptors Greivis Vasquez, right, and DeMar DeRozan agree the team's losing streak has been trying.
FRANK FRANKLIN II/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A blowout would be nice. But as they try to snap out of the worst slump yet this season, the Toronto Raptors would be satisfied with any kind of victory.

Getting their mojo back starts with beating the woeful Philadelphia 76ers Monday night, said Raptors guard Greivis Vasquez.

"We can't do anything else but come out on Monday and be pissed off about it and (win) somehow, someway, whether it's by one, I don't care. We need this one Monday for us to recuperate our trust in each other, and our swagger. Our swagger is just gone, I don't even know where it is," said Vasquez, as the Raptors try to end a season-high five-game losing streak.

While there's no official word from the team, the Raptors could also see point guard Kyle Lowry back in the lineup against his hometown team after resting against the Knicks.

"We need to put together one good game and get back to understanding that we can play better basketball," agreed DeMar DeRozan, who lately has been struggling mightily with his shooting.

Against the Knicks, DeRozan shot just 3-for-15 from the field and missed a wide-open dunk. He also missed several of the mid-range jumpers that had become his bread and butter. He admitted to feeling more than a little snake-bitten.

Quoted

"Games start getting harder. Teams prepare for us. Now we're not the Cinderella team any more. Teams are really preparing for us." Raptors guard Greivis Vasquez

"I mean, hell, yeah. Honestly, it's tough. But one thing, not just for myself but for all of us, we've got to fight through it. We miss a couple shots in a row we can't stop going because once this turns in our favour, it's going to be a scary sight," said DeRozan.

The time for analysis of what exactly's gone wrong is over, said veteran power forward Amir Johnson.

"It's pretty much no more talking. We definitely need to come together and get this win. We played a little bit better today, made some mistakes, but have to come get this win," said Johnson.

From the heady heights of late November and early December, when they briefly had the best record in the NBA, the Raptors have stumbled. There was perhaps no bigger pratfall than Saturday night, when they were embarrassed by the lowly New York Knicks 103-98.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Capitals' Alex Ovechkin lunges for the puck against Maple Leafs defenceman Stephane Robidas and goalie James Reimer on Sunday in Washington. ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ovi tallies twice to blast Buds

Alex Ovechkin scored his 40th and 41st goals of the season and added an assist, Braden Holtby made 32 saves, and the Washington Capitals defeated the Toronto Maple Leafs 4-0 on Sunday night, snapping a three-game losing streak.

Ovechkin struck just 33 seconds into the game and added a second-period score as he surpassed the 40-goal mark for the seventh time.

Marcus Johansson and Joel Ward (empty net) added third-period goals for Washington, and Holtby picked up his seventh shutout and 30th win of the season.

On Sunday

4	0
Capitals	Maple Leafs

James Reimer stopped 28 shots for Toronto, which has lost 16 straight road games. The Maple Leafs went 0-for-4 on the power play.

Washington took a 1-0 lead when Ovechkin took a pass just inside the blue-line, skated into the left circle, and fired a wrist shot past Reimer for Washington's fastest goal to start a game this season.

Ovechkin then did his celebratory jump into the boards and promptly fell, but was laughing as his teammates arrived to congratulate him.

The Capitals made it 2-0 at 5:30 of the second when Reimer made a save on a blast from the point by Brooks Orpik, but Ovechkin got the rebound and back-handed it home. THE ASSSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

Blue Jays take chance on Viciedo

MLB. With depth an issue, outfielder signs on for minor-league deal

Taking another flyer, the Blue Jays signed outfielder Dayan Viciedo to a minor-league contract Sunday.

The 25-year-old Cuban, released by the White Sox in early February, will be given a chance to show he belongs somewhere on the depth chart.

"He's got some power, a right-handed bat," said general manager Alex Anthopoulos. "Has played some third (base) in his career, played some first. Certainly played the outfield and we'll just take a look at him for the month of March and see what we have."

On Thursday, the Jays signed former Cy Young winner Johan Santana, also to a minor-league deal. Santana, sidelined by shoulder and Achilles injuries, last threw in the majors in 2012.

Both players get a pro-rated $2.5-million US, one-year deal if they make the team, with Santana also getting performance bonuses. The minor league rate is $20,000 a month.

Dayan Viciedo GETTY IMAGES

"Any minor-league deal, there's no downside to it," Anthopoulos said. "You always take chances on those."

Viciedo was cut loose with Chicago looking to former Jay Melky Cabrera in left field.

The five-foot-11, 240-pound Cuban batted .231 last season with 21 home runs and 58 RBIs. He had 122 strikeouts and 32 walks in 523 at-bats and is not known for his outfield defence. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Around training camp

Blue Jays slugger Jose Bautista, centre, stretches during spring training on Sunday in Dunedin, Fla. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

- **Intrasquad aces.** R.A. Dickey and Mark Buehrle will open on the mound Monday in the Blue Jays' intra-squad game. The seven-inning game at the Florida Auto Exchange Stadium serves as an appetizer for Toronto's start of Grapefruit League play Tuesday.
- **Dioner a gamer.** Spring training is a time to answer Blue Jays questions. But not when it comes to video games. Catcher Dioner Navarro is the king of the console castle. Navarro, an avid soccer fan, excels at the made-in-Canada FIFA soccer game. But the longtime Barcelona supporter declines to blow his own gaming horn. "Go ask Pillar and Goins," he said with a smile. Both outfielder Kevin Pillar and second baseman Ryan Goins have been schooled by the 31-year-old Florida-based Venezuelan, it seems. "I've got a little game, but nothing compared to Navarro," said Goins. "He's unbelievable. I played him the other night. It was embarrassing."

Rousey rises to a new level in latest title defence

Ronda Rousey forced Cat Zingano to tap out after just 14 seconds on Saturday night at Staples Center in Los Angeles. HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES

Ronda Rousey has stopped every opponent she has faced in her meteoric mixed martial arts career, so a first-round victory is no shock for the UFC's bantamweight champion.

Except nobody had finished a UFC title fight this quickly, and hardly anyone had ever done it with so much flair.

Rousey stopped Cat Zingano with an acrobatic armbar after just 14 seconds, dramatically defending her 135-pound title at UFC 184 on Saturday night.

Rousey's fifth title defence ended before the sellout Staples Center crowd could process what it just witnessed.

"There's very few situations where a fight goes 14 seconds and the crowd is cheering and going crazy and looking at each other with their mouths open," UFC president Dana White said.

Rousey (11-0) earned the most impressive win of her career with amazing speed, taking out the previously unbeaten Zingano with her signature armlock.

Zingano (9-1) dropped Rousey on her head with a flying charge at the opening bell, but the champ used her peerless judo skills to flip Zingano onto her back. Rousey scampered into position to wrench Zingano's arm grotesquely — and just like that, the challenger tapped out.

Rousey wasn't surprised by the opening charge: She suspected Zingano might try to catch her unprepared. Rousey didn't expect to get turned upside-down, but when it happened, the Olympic medal-winning judoka relied on instinct.

"I made that up on the fly, to be honest," Rousey said. "But it was kind of funny: We were going toward the ground, and I kind of reverted back to judo mode and was thinking, 'Don't touch your back. It's a point.' That's where the acrobatic thing came from, was thinking about not touching your back in judo."

At this point, nobody in the sport can touch Rousey, the most dominant champion in MMA. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

96

Ronda Rousey's last three fights have lasted a total of 96 seconds, including two bouts against previously unbeaten opponents. Her 14-second finish was a record for any UFC title bout.

NBA

Clippers calmly dispatch Bulls

DeAndre Jordan had 26 rebounds and Chris Paul scored 28 points Sunday, leading the Los Angeles Clippers to a 96-86 victory over the Chicago Bulls.

L.A. was behind 76-75 when Jamal Crawford made a three with 8:02 left. The Clippers never trailed again. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cavaliers at Rockets

LeBron shaky from the line with game on the line

James Harden scored 33 points for Houston and Cleveland star LeBron James missed a pair of free throws with 4.2 seconds left in overtime, helping the Rockets hold on for a 105-103 win over the Cavaliers on Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James goes to the basket against the Rockets' Josh Smith on Sunday in Houston. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Garnett gives back

1,000

Kevin Garnett has purchased 1,000 tickets to Minnesota's next game in appreciation of Timberwolves fans for their welcome of his return to the team.

The Timberwolves made the announcement on Sunday morning. They host the Los Angeles Clippers on Monday night.

The freebies courtesy of the 15-time all-star power forward will be available on the team's website on Monday morning.

The first 500 fans to claim them will get a pair of seats.

Cricket World Cup

England, Pakistan take different paths

England lost another Cricket World Cup match by a big margin Sunday, and its odds of making the quarter-finals are fading. Pakistan did the opposite, winning for the first time in three matches to improve its chances of reaching the final eight.

Nine days after losing to New Zealand by eight wickets, England returned to the same venue at Wellington and lost by nine wickets to Sri Lanka despite posting a challenging total of 309.

At Brisbane, Australia, Mohammad Irfan used his height to full effect to take four wickets as Pakistan defended a low total against Zimbabwe to get its tournament campaign back on track with a 20-run victory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Another first for The Special One

Soccer. Mourinho nabs trophy No. 1 in second stint as Chelsea manager

The longest title drought of Jose Mourinho's managerial career ended, and the prospects of League Cup glory being followed by Premier League glory also improved on Sunday.

Before Premier League leader Chelsea beat Tottenham 2-0 in the first final of the English season, second-place Manchester City lost 2-1 at Liverpool.

So Chelsea's players paraded the cup at Wembley Stadium knowing that, in the quest for the biggest domestic prize, Chelsea has a five-point lead with a game in hand.

It was Mourinho's first triumph since winning the 2012 Spanish title with Real Madrid, and ensured his second season back at Chelsea will not end trophyless like his first.

"For the club it's one more cup," Mourinho said. "But it's the first one of a new team."

It was the oldest player in the starting lineup, though, who scored the opening goal at Wembley Stadium: John Terry.

With the aid of a ricochet off Tottenham defender Eric Dier, the 34-year-old captain netted from close range past Hugo Lloris just before half time. Diego Costa's attempted shot then spun into the net off Kyle Walker's outstretched leg in the 56th minute.

"Spurs made us be humble and think in this game strategically to win this final," said Mourinho, who won five trophies in his 2004-07 spell as Chelsea manager — starting with the League Cup.

In a bid to keep his team focused, Mourinho tried to prevent them knowing the score of Man City's lunchtime Premier League game at Liverpool.

What was being celebrated was Philippe Coutinho's Anfield winner. The Brazilian playmaker capped his latest impressive display for Liverpool by curling in a 25-metre shot in the 75th minute.

Arsenal finished the weekend still in third place, a point ahead of Manchester United, after beating Everton 2-0.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"For the club, it's one more cup. But it's the first one of a new team."

Jose Mourinho on Chelsea's League Cup win

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho celebrates on the pitch after the Blues' 2-0 win over Tottenham in the League Cup final on Sunday at Wembley Stadium in London. CLIVE ROSE/GETTY IMAGES

Monday, March 2, 2015

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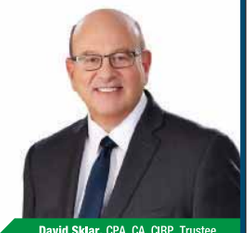
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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
An older friend or family member will give you some invaluable advice. You may be doing well at the moment but if you are willing to learn you will soon be doing even better.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Don't worry if others say you don't take enough risks. If you follow your instincts over the coming week you will go much further than your critics.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You will be eager to do favours, but don't force yourself on those who have not asked you to help. Some people prefer to suffer in silence.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Something you value will go out of your life today. But you know you need to make room for the even better things coming your way very soon.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Your opinion about someone you work or do business with will change dramatically today. Talk to them and get to know them better — it could be the start of a beautiful friendship.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Not even a Virgo knows all the answers. What you discover today is sure to take you by surprise. How many other issues do you know less about than you imagined?

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't keep your schemes and dreams to yourself: they are big enough for everyone to share in.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you need to get back on good terms with a loved one or a relative now is the time. Just let them know your recent disagreement is well and truly forgotten.

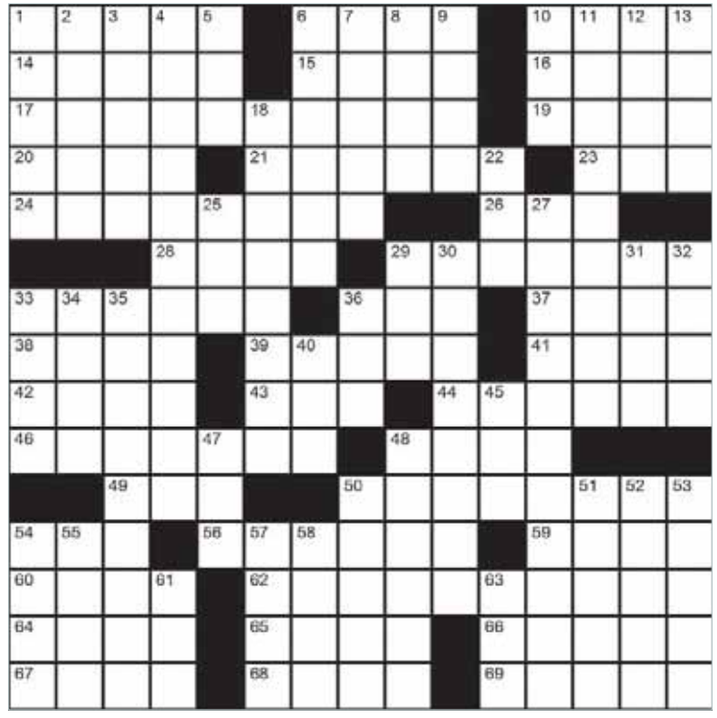
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will have to deal with someone who hates to take risks. According to the planets you will need this individual's help in the near future, so be nice — or at least pretend.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will discover something about a friend that makes you understand why they have been behaving so strangely. Keep what you find to yourself.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You need to make peace with someone you fell out with a week or two ago. Get over your disagreement and focus on what is important.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You need to reveal more of your feelings. Others don't know how to take you because you have been wearing your deadpan face for so long they fear it might now be for real. It's not, so get rid of it.

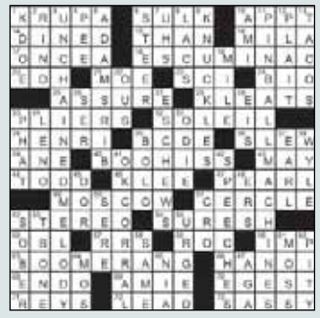
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Civil Rights leader Mr. Jackson
6. School subj.
10. Assorted [abbr.]
14. Keen
15. Travelling
16. Certain preposition
17. The Cartographer of _____ (P.S. Duffy's WWI novel set in the Western Front and Nova Scotia)
19. Image
20. "Before _ __ you go..."
21. Objective
23. Mil.'s special __
24. Suitor's song
26. Verb suffix
28. Read: French
29. Withdraws oneself
33. Ancient fortune-telling women
36. Howe'er
37. Judicious
38. Monster
39. San Jose Sharks player Matt born in Brentwood Bay, BC
41. "Immediately!" in the ER
42. Trick
43. Robin Roberts' show, commonly
44. Exit
46. Mr. Capote's
48. New-__
49. Prime meridian std.
50. Fugitive's plight, if caught
54. Bonfire remnant
56. "Take Me to Church" singer
59. Oz: Dorothy's surname
60. X-mark a ballot
62. Song by Canadian band Metric that goes: "Fingertip to painted lip...": 2 wds.
64. Atomic Number 26
65. "In the Valley of __" (2007)
66. Domesticated
67. E-Mail button
68. Danube†River, in Budapest
69. Not quite right

Down
1. Ms. Joplin
2. School: French
3. Ur's locale in ancient Mesopotamia
4. Fredericton's nickname, City of __ __
5. Poetic nightfall
6. Sick: French
7. On the ball
8. Piquancy
9. __ Park in London, England
10. Pas toi
11. Nunavut: Baffin Island's Meta __ Peninsula
12. Discontinue
13. Pros opposites
18. Pisces, for one: 2 wds.
22. Poetic contraction
25. Nothing
27. CBC's "The National", for one: 2 wds.
29. Sushi tuna
30. 007 love interest: 2 wds.
31. Pre-1917 emperor
32. Paving stone
33. Cushy
34. __ Straminsky, mess worker on "M*A*S*H"
35. BC: Body of water between Vancouver Island and Malcom Island, __ Strait
36. Old airline, e.g.
40. House's den, et al.
45. poet mr. cummings, et al.
47. Sports fig.
48. Vocal legend Ms. Franklin
50. Denizen of the Leaning Tower city
51. Campbell or Watts
52. Q. "Is this yours?" A. "No, it must be somebody __."
53. Bassoon props
54. Notice: French
55. Upset
57. Uttered "That's nice dear."
58. Phonetic alphabet's last letter
61. Finish
63. Airport posting, e.g.

Last Week's Crossword

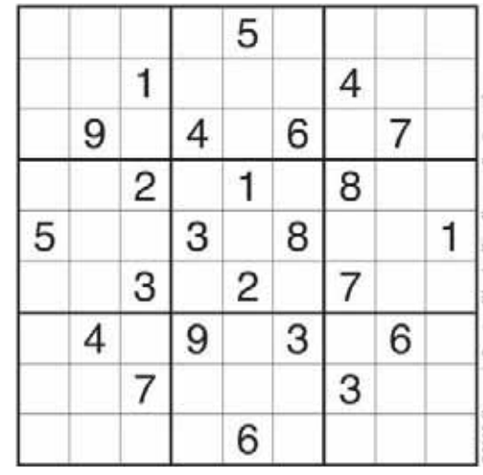


Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



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Last Week's Sudoku

3	6	2	4	9	1	7	5	8
9	1	8	3	5	7	2	6	4
7	5	4	6	2	8	9	1	3
4	9	6	2	7	5	8	3	1
1	2	3	9	8	4	6	7	5
5	8	7	1	3	6	4	2	9
2	7	1	5	4	9	3	8	6
6	3	9	8	1	2	5	4	7
8	4	5	7	6	3	1	9	2

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